APPENDIX 1 – REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Regional Priorities

The Regional Board does not conduct water quality improvement projects but provides assistance and oversight, as necessary, for local stakeholders to complete projects that address regional priorities.

For cases where stakeholders are best suited to provide stewardship efforts to protect and enhance water quality in local streams, the Regional Board supports projects that address the water quality priorities as described in Table 1. Table 2 describes the projects, needs and activities that staff believe reflect the water quality priorities within individual subareas. However, funding is limited and competitive. Projects included in the Targeted Projects Table are not guaranteed funding. All proposals will be evaluated against the water quality priorities at the time proposals are ranked. Priority projects should result in measurable improvements in water quality and contribute to ongoing implementation at a reasonable expense. Current statewide emphasis is on projects that implement TMDLs. Please note that priorities and projects are not listed in any priority or ranked order.

For cases where improvements are needed for municipal and domestic wastewater treatment, financial assistance may be provided to address identified public health hazards, water quality problems or to provide for reusing wastewater to offset the use of fresh/potable water. Funds are available from various sources, including the State Board, US EPA, the California Department of Housing and Community Development, California Department of Water Resources, and the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank.

Grants administered by the State Board for wastewater treatment plant improvements are limited to small communities with financial hardships. The State Board grant priorities are currently under development.

The State Board also administers a low interest State Revolving Fund Loan program for wastewater treatment plant improvements that does not have community size or income requirements. Current State Revolving Loan priorities for Region 5 may be found at:

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/cwphome/srf/rb5.html

Table 1: Water Quality Priorities

Identification Number	Priority Description
1	Projects which assess source loading and implement existing TMDL programs for nonpoint source pollutants (e.g. selenium, nutrients, pesticides, bacteria, sediment, and temperature) in areas of identified beneficial use impacts.
2	Projects which identify sources and reduce loadings of pollutants from irrigated agriculture and implementation of management practices to mitigate/reduce nonpoint source pollution from irrigated and non-irrigated agriculture (including pesticides, salts, sediment, nutrients, pathogens, selenium, boron, organic carbon, and other pollutants), and monitoring programs which demonstrate effectiveness of these practices.
3	Projects which support capacity to establish and implement locally directed watershed management programs: i.e. programs which include watershed assessments, development of watershed management plans, establish watershed data management capacity, implementation of watershed management plans, community watershed education, and watershed monitoring.
4	Implementation of watershed education, including citizen monitoring, community outreach and involvement and/or K-12 education programs.
5	Projects which improve or restore natural functioning condition of stream channels (i.e. restore floodplain access, reduce accelerated erosion, improve aquatic and riparian habitat - including fisheries, restore natural hydrologic regimes, improve water quality).
6	Projects which address invasive, exotic vegetative species resulting in enhancement of water quality, quantity and/or habitat conditions.
7	Protection, restoration, and enhancement of sensitive watershed lands through easement/fee title acquisitions and other means to avoid or reduce water quality impacts from encroaching land uses.
8	Projects which improve upland conditions (i.e. fuels management, wildlife habitat enhancement, range improvement, etc.) and result in improved water quality and aquatic habitat conditions.
9	Projects which lead towards implementation of the CA Rangeland Water Quality Management Plan, SWRCB, 1995 (i.e. development and implementation of individual Ranch Plans, projects which improve livestock management for purposes of water quality and aquatic habitat enhancement).
10	Projects which identify sources and reduce loadings of pollutants (i.e. pesticides, oil/grease, nutrients, pathogens, etc.) from urban storm water discharges.
11	Projects which address groundwater contamination by nitrates, pesticides, and salinity in areas of identified beneficial use impacts.
12	Studies and implementation projects which address discharges of mercury and other heavy metals from a variety of sources including abandoned and inactive mines.
13	Technical assistance and outreach in regards to nutrient management in croplands for animal feeding operations.
14	Projects that assess the water quality and beneficial use conditions of waters in the region, especially ephemeral, intermittent, or low flow streams dominated with waste discharges.
15	Projects that assess impacts of various land use practices on drinking water sources and develop implementation measures to protect these waters.

Table 2: Targeted Projects, Needs or Activities

Project Type and Description		Watersheds, Subwatersheds, and Subareas (by Hydrologic Unit Number and Name)												
		505, 506, 525, 526, 527, 562	518	522, 523, 524	507, 509, 521	504, 508	510	512, 513	516, 517	514	511, 515, 519, 520	53x, 541, 542, 542, 543	544	55x
		Northeast Subarea (Pit River, McCloud River, and Upper Sacramento River)	Upper Feather River Subarea (North, Middle/South Forks of Feather River above Lake Oroville)	Westside of Sacramento Valley (Cottonwood, Redbank, Elder, Thomes, and Stony Creek)	North and Eastside Sacramento Valley (Clear, Cow, Bear, Battle, Mill, Deer, Big Chico, and Butte Creeks)	Sacramento River (Redding to Hamilton City)	Sacramento Delta	Southwest side of Sacramento Valley Subwatersheds	Yuba and Bear River Subwatersheds	American River Subwatershed	Lower Sacramento Valley Floor Subwatersheds (Sacramento River from Hamilton City to I St. Bridge)	San Joaquin River Watershed	San Joaquin Delta	Tulare Lake Watershed
	Implement BMPs/Improve Water Quality													
1	Projects which support capacity to establish and implement locally directed watershed management programs: including implementation of existing watershed management plans	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2	Implementation of BMPs to mitigate/reduce nonpoint source pollution from irrigated and non-irrigated agriculture (including organic carbon, pesticides, salts, sediment, nutrients, pathogens, and other pollutants)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3	Projects which provide technical assistance and/or implement demonstration projects to address nutrients, BOD, and other pollutants from dairy wastes						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4	Implementation of control systems by local water/drainage districts to manage the water quality of discharges into natural water bodies						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
5	Projects which implement nutrient reduction plans in areas of identified beneficial use impacts	X					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
6	Projects which lead towards implementation of the CA Rangeland Water Quality Management Plan, SWRCB, 1995 (i.e. development and implementation of individual Ranch Plans, projects which improve livestock management for purposes of water quality and aquatic habitat enhancement)	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X
7	Projects which specifically address accelerated erosion and sediment discharge/deposition and elevated stream temperatures.	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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8	Projects which identify sources and reduce loadings of pollutants (i.e. pesticides, oil/grease, nutrients, pathogens, etc.) from urban storm water discharges				X		X				X	X	X	X
9	Implementation projects which address discharges of mercury and other heavy metals from a variety of sources including abandoned and inactive mines			X	X	X		X	X	X		X		X
10	Pilot implementation projects of mercury control in different settings (i.e. mercury, mine, gold mine, stream bed sediment) and effectiveness monitoring			X	X	X		X	X	X		X		X
11	Mine Stabilization and reclamation					X		X	X	X		X		X
12	Projects which improve or restore natural functioning condition of stream channels (i.e. restore floodplain access, reduce accelerated erosion, improve aquatic and riparian habitat, restore natural hydrologic regimes)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
13	Projects which address and implement measures to eradicate invasive, exotic vegetative species resulting in enhancement of water quality, quantity and/or habitat conditions.			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
14	Implement BMPs to reduce nitrates, pesticides and salinity in groundwater						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
15	Fund Stakeholder Group Coordinator to facilitate implementation of watershed management plans	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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16	Promotion of orchard grower adoption of state-of-the-art pesticide sprayer technology through a program of field day demonstrations and providing loan units to growers; also to include providing growers the use of Pessl instruments to identify defects in their existing spray equipment (nozzle spray patterns, calibration) and to optimize their equipment to match sprayer discharge pattern to canopy of their individual orchards.					X	X				X	X	X	
17	Urban Creeks Pesticide Management Program – implement pesticide management program						X				X	X	X	
18	Implementation and evaluation of BMPs for the Clear Lake Mercury Control Program							X						
19	Implementation and evaluation of BMPs for the Cache Creek Mercury Control Program (evaluate modification to settling basin for impact sediment control. Develop annual sediment budget for Cache Creek)							X						
20	Cache Creek Settling Basin Clean-up: pilot implementation program, and demonstration							X						
21	Implementation of alternative land management programs intended to convert agricultural lands to uses such that they will not discharge subsurface drain or tail water to natural or constructed waterways and utilize constructed vegetated channels to remove selenium from agricultural drain water											X		
22	Reduction in pesticide inputs, nutrient inputs, and erosion and sediment control in winegrape vineyards by implementing BMPs via a grower self-assessment program							X	X	X		X		

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23	Implementation of discharge permit and control system intended to allow access to district drainage system only if drainwater meets District standards											X		
24	Pilot implementation projects of methyl-mercury control in different settings (i.e. wetland and agriculture drains)						X	X			X	X	X	
25	Mine Clean-Up pilot implementation project of an ongoing source of mercury to address off-site migration of mercury			X	X			X	X	X		X		X
26	Implementation and evaluation of BMPs to address low dissolved oxygen conditions in the lower San Joaquin River												X	
27	Implementation and evaluation of BMPs for the Bay-Delta Mercury Control Program						X	X					X	
28	Implement irrigation improvement projects to reduce water use.	X			X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
29	Projects which improve upland conditions (i.e. fuels management, wildlife habitat enhancement, range improvement, etc.) and result in improved water quality and aquatic habitat conditions	X	X	X	X			X	X	X		X	X	X
30	Revegetation of banks of waterways and irrigation canals to reduce sedimentation and buffer other NPS pollution, including use of native flora.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
31	Projects which result in augmentation of in-stream flows for purposes of enhancing water quality, fisheries, aquatic habitat and other beneficial water uses	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
32	Implementation of stream restoration measures to restore and protect fish habitat and passage. Including the construction of fish barriers/screens and restoration of	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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	native riparian plant species													
33	Implement cooperative ranching practices to protect and restore vernal pool and riparian habitat			X	X			X	X	X	X	X		
34	Restore riparian and creek habitat, enhance spawning gravel, spawning barrier removal in the Arcade Creek; Sacramento urban creeks; Upper Cache Creek; Clear Lake; Battle Creek; Cow Creek; Mokelumne River; and Consumnes River Watersheds				X			X	X	X	X	X		
35	Support habitat restoration and gravel rehabilitation in the Merced River Watershed											X		
36	Projects which further implement stream improvements within the Last Chance Creek Demonstration Watershed		X											
37	Projects which result in basinwide retention of storm runoff and augmentation of dry season flow	X	X	X	X									
38	Projects resulting in overall reduction of heavy metals' loading to the Sacramento River					X		X	X	X	X			
39	Projects which address the 303(d) listing for sediment in the Fall River	X												
40	Projects which address the 303(d) listing for temperature, dissolved oxygen, and nutrient enrichment in the Pit River	X												
41	Projects which address the 303(d) listing for fecal coliform in the Cow Creek Watershed				X									

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42	Projects which develop/implement individual watershed management strategies within the overall Upper Feather River Basin (e.g. Spanish Creek, Indian Creek, Sulfur Creek, Sierra Valley, etc.)		X											
43	Projects which contribute to the implementation of the Diazinon TMDL for the Sacramento River					X					X			
44	Projects which address the 303(d) listing for Chlorpyrifos, Copper, Organic Enrichment/Low D.O., Boron, E.C., and/or Diazinon						X				X	X	X	
45	Projects which address the 303(d) listing for Mercury				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
46	Orchard pesticide application equipment: establish standards for evaluation, evaluate efficiencies of available equipment, refine spray parameters to optimize efficiency, develop new equipment using newer technology, technology transfer to growers.	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	
47	Pesticide use profiling. "Mine" PUR to profile use patterns. Determine management regimes used, share information with growers in area.	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	
48	GIS mapping of soils, slopes, distance from waterbody, etc. to identify zones where pesticide runoff is likely and mitigation necessary.	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	
49	Vegetative canals for runoff mitigation.	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	
50	Use existing fields as "treatment systems" for agricultural discharges from other commodities.	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	
51	Fund implementation of BMPs already identified as likely to be effective, quantify effectiveness.	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	
52	Fund projects that can generate revenue and become self-supporting, such as labeling program for WQ protection.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

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	Assess Loadings and Impacts													
53	Projects which support capacity to establish and implement locally directed watershed management programs: including watershed assessments						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
54	Projects which assess nutrient source loads in areas of identified beneficial use impacts						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
55	Studies that address discharges of mercury and other heavy metals from a variety of sources including abandoned and inactive mines						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
56	Projects which assess bacteria contamination in areas of identified beneficial use impacts						X	X	X	X	X			X
57	Evaluate urban subwatersheds and identify significant contaminant sources						X				X			
58	Implementation of a study of the Salt/Boron in the San Joaquin River with a Real-time management infrastructure; will require the establishment of real-time flow and water quality stations at key compliance points in the San Joaquin River											X		
59	Assess high salinity drainage discharges													X
60	Investigate loading impacts from confined animal facilities													X
61	Investigate nitrogen and salt loading contributions to ground and surface water													X
62	Investigate loading contributions from septic systems						X	X	X	X	X			X
63	Investigate loading contributions from agricultural activities													X

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64	TMDL Development													X
65	Projects which identify the source and magnitude of pollutants in urban streams of Redding and Chico, and evaluate the effectiveness of BMPs to addres these pollutants				X									
66	Projects which identify the pathogen loadings in waterways sourced from boating marinas						X				X	X	X	
	Research-Oriented Studies													
67	Projects which address the transport of pesticides and other pollutants from orchard operations, i.e. identification and measurement of influencing parameters, mass balance studies, and implementation and evaluation of the effect of Best Management Practices for various crops and seasons						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
68	Transport of pesticides applied in urban areas to surface water bodies: Identification and measurement of influencing parameters, implementation, and evaluation of the effect of Best Management Practices						X				X	X	X	X
69	Feasibility studies of mercury control in different settings (i.e. mercury, mine, gold mine, stream bed sediment) and effectiveness monitoring						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
70	Cache CreekSettling Basin Clean-up: feasibility study							X						
71	Feasibility studies of methyl-mercury control in different settings (i.e. wetland and agriculture drains) with additional satellite studies later						X	X				X	X	
72	Mine Clean-Up feasibility study; would address options for reducing off-site migration of mercury							X	X	X		X	X	X

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73	Support temperature modeling efforts in the Merced River Watershed											X		
74	Study fate, transport, toxicity of pyrethroids and other pesticides likely to substitute for diazinon, especially in sediment	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
75	Larger scale basin monitoring; assess basin-wide impacts and improvements	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
76	Determine beneficial use of agricultural drains.	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	
	Monitoring													
77	Implementation of monitoring programs which demonstrate effectiveness of practices addressing pollutants from irrigated and non-irrigated agriculture						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
78	Implement citizens monitoring						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
79	Projects which document existing baseline water quality/watershed condition and establish programs to evaluate long-term water quality/watershed trends.						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
80	Assessment of salmonid populations and monitoring of site-specific and cumulative biological response to implementation of conservation/restoration strategies with the goal of restoring and protecting fish habitat and passage						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
81	Inventory stream resource conditions and major sediment sources in order to implement stream restoration projects							X	X	X				
82	Develop baseline water monitoring data for future measurement of BMP impacts on NPS pollution reduction in vineyards.							X				X		

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83	Conduct beneficial use impacts monitoring													X
84	Surface water source identification and loading													X
85	Implement biological monitoring													X
86	Create GIS repository for watershed data													X
87	Monitor sedimentation in streams down slope of areas effected by wildfires and timber harvesting													X
88	Conduct pathogen indicator monitoring in and around boating marinas						X				X	X	X	
	Education and Outreach													
89	Implement K-12 Watershed education program						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
90	Implement public education programs about urban and agricultural recycling programs to reduce demand on freshwater inflows.						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
91	Provide educational programs on the California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) database and how it can be utilized to reduce overall water use.						X				X	X	X	X
92	Establish a centralized information service to gather and disseminate information about watershed projects/activities taking place throughout the San Joaquin river basin											X		
93	Support water quality educational initiatives in the Merced River Watershed											X		
94	Septic tank education and outreach							X	X	X				X

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Table 2: Targeted Projects, Needs or Activities

Project Type and Description		Watersheds, Subwatersheds, and Subareas (by Hydrologic Unit Number and Name)												
		505, 506, 525, 526, 527, 562	518	522, 523, 524	507, 509, 521	504, 508	510	512, 513	516, 517	514	511, 515, 519, 520	53x, 541, 542, 542, 543	544	55x
		Northeast Subarea (Pit River, McCloud River, and Upper Sacramento River)	Upper Feather River Subarea (North, Middle/South Forks of Feather River above Lake Oroville)	Westside of Sacramento Valley (Cottonwood, Redbank, Elder, Thomes, and Stony Creek)	North and Eastside Sacramento Valley (Clear, Cow, Bear, Battle, Mill, Deer, Big Chico, and Butte Creeks)	Sacramento River (Redding to Hamilton City)	Sacramento Delta	Southwest side of Sacramento Valley Subwatersheds	Yuba and Bear River Subwatersheds	American River Subwatershed	Lower Sacramento Valley Floor Subwatersheds (Sacramento River from Hamilton City to I St. Bridge)	San Joaquin River Watershed	San Joaquin Delta	Tulare Lake Watershed
95	Support for continuation/expansion of the River Center (information/outreach center for the Pit River Watershed)	X												
96	Education and outreach on proper management of domestic wastewater from houseboats						X				X	X	X	
	Watershed Planning													
97	Projects which support capacity to establish and implement locally directed watershed management programs: including development of watershed management plans						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
98	Fund Stakeholder Group Coordinator to facilitate development of watershed management plans						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
99	Develop flow recommendations for anadromous fish passage in the valley sections						X				X	X	X	
100	Develop a control program for subwatersheds of the American River. Control measures may be structural and non-structural controls (e.g., community/business outreach, storm drain stenciling, etc.).									X				
101	Assist in development of nutrient reduction plans for surface waters							X					X	X
	Land Acquisition													
102	Protection, restoration, and enhancement of sensitive watershed lands through easement/fee title acquisitions and other means to avoid or reduce water quality impacts from encroaching land uses						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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